

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAN JO 02144 281756Z

46

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 306
INFO MANAGUA 2664

UNCLAS SAN JOSE 2144

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, NU, CS

SUBJECT: LA NACION INTERVIEW WITH SANDINISTA
LEONEL CABEZAS

1. THE MAY 27 LA NACION PUBLISHED AN INTERVIEW WITH SANDINISTA GUERRILLA LEONEL CABEZAS CHAVEZ, WHICH WAS HELD IN AN UNDISCLOSED LOCATION IN COSTA RICA. CABEZAS WAS DESCRIBED AS AN INVALID WHO HAS SPENT THE LAST 15 YEARS IN A WHEELCHAIR BECAUSE OF A MACHINEGUN WOUND IN HIS SPINE.

2. CABEZAS REPORTEDLY WAS BORN IN NICARAGUA BUT RAISED IN COSTA RICA AND CLAIMED THAT IN COSTA RICA HE HAD FOUND TOTAL SUPPORT FOR THE LIBERATION OF NICARAGUA FROM SOMOZA.

3. IN DISCUSSING TORTURE BY THE GON, CABEZAS CLAIMED THAT THE PEOPLE WHO WERE RELEASED BY SOMOZA IN CONNECTION WITH THE DEC. 27 ATTACK ARRIVED IN CUBA "MUTILATED." HE ALSO REPORTEDLY DISCUSSED THE DEATH OF AN OLD NICARAGUAN NEWSPAPERMAN MANUEL DIAZ Y SOTELA, WHO WAS ALLEGEDLY TORTURED, HIS FINGERS SMASHED, AND THEN REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN SHOT "WHILE ESCAPING."

4. SINCE HE CANNOT FIGHT SOMOZA PHYSICALLY, CABEZAS IS REPORTEDLY WRITING A BOOK WHICH WILL ENTAIL THE HISTORY OF NICARAGUA AND ITS LIBERATION MOVEMENTS.

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5. CLIPPINGS WILL BE POUCHED.

TODMAN

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